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SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1916.

LOWERING BASEBALL'S COST

Once in a while, anyhow, a necessary of life is reduced in price. Now it's baseball.

Reducing the top figure for the American League games in Washington is in line with what Boston and Cleveland have done. In Boston, home of a world champion team, it has long been customary to reserve a large share of seats for fancy prices on big days; the number of reservations would be less on ordinary days. The fans, not knowing what their chances for good seats would be, became disgusted and made their protest felt at the box office by staying away.

Cleveland had much the same system, and it produced equally bad results.

These two towns adopted the plan of a flat dollar rate at the top; with reserved seats strictly limited to a fixed number save on holidays and opening days. Good results followed, and Washington has got in line. In Washington the three rows of specially reserved seats have seldom been filled, but the spectacle of these, unused and inviting, never failed to inspire the hot polloi with sentiments of anarchy. Seventy-five cents looks reasonable to the grandstand regulars; they are the people who support the game, and they are entitled to as good seats as there are. They are going to have the privilege of the front rows at this figure, if they get there in time. It will prove good business, especially in view of the promise that even when the home team is at the top of the percentage column there will be no effort to extract special prices.

More sound finance. The crowd is expected to support the team when it's in eighth place; and in this town has been mighty loyal in that regard. Why not some reciprocity, by way of letting the devoted retainers in on the good thing at the same price? We guess it will pay.

BETHMANN-HOLWEG'S CONFES- SION ABOUT NEUTRALS

Dr. von Bethmann-Holweg, the German imperial chancellor, may not have said to an open or to a secret session of the Reichstag what news dispatches credit him with having said in regard to the necessity of avoiding war with the United States. But if he did not say it to the Reichstag he must have said it to a private few several times and he must have thought it many times.

It is true that if the German government permitted its submarine policy to force a breach with the United States almost inevitably the other powers which are still neutral would follow us. It is no more a secret in Berlin than it is in the capitals of other countries of the Old World and of the New that both neutral nations of the Eastern Hemisphere and neutral nations of the Western Hemisphere have been more eager to come to an issue with Germany than this Government has.

It has been all the more extraordinary, therefore, that the German government has been willing to permit its submarines to imperil its relations with all the neutral peoples. For again it is true that the submarines have not been able to influence the course of the war a particle. They have not been able to starve out Great Britain, as they set out to do. They have not been able to discourage the shipping of the allies from traffic with Great Britain, France, Russia, and Italy. They have not been able to discourage the shipping of neutrals from such traffic, although, relatively, neutral shipping has suffered more heavily from submarine lawlessness than belligerent shipping has suffered.

But this submarine policy of frightfulness, its principal achievement being merely the murder of men, women, and children in cold blood, has stimulated recruiting throughout the British empire, has confirmed the allies in their resolve never to make peace until they have smashed the Prussian military machine, has alienated the civilized world from the central powers and has brought neutral nations like the United States, Brazil, Argentina, Holland, perhaps even Spain and the Scandinavian countries, to the very verge of making the alliance of Great Britain, France, Russia, and Italy a world league against the Teutonic powers.

It has been a very madness of the Prussian militarists that they have been willing to shed helpless and innocent blood when no possible good could come of such a course as a war measure and when persistence in it as a brutal provocation of the wrath of humankind would have spelled the

very doom of the great German race, with all its magnificent powers and splendid achievements.

EXPORT GAINS ARE IN VALUE, NOT QUANTITY

Nothing could be more stupid than for the American people to be remiss in gathering the golden harvest showered upon us by our export trade during the war. But nothing could be more fatuous than for us to assume that this is going to continue after the war.

Directly bearing upon predictions that the new peace trade abroad will compensate for collapse of the war trade is a careful analysis by the National City Bank of the prodigious value of our present sales abroad.

It isn't because we are selling no many bushels and yards and tons that our exports, in dollars and cents, have climbed to figures never known by any other nation on the face of the earth. It isn't the quantity of our exports. It is prices.

As a matter of fact, we haven't been selling as much, except in dollars and cents, as before the war.

We haven't even sold as much copper, in quantity, for the total of pigs, ingots, and bars exported in the eight months ending with February last was only 446,000,000 pounds, as against 632,000,000 in the corresponding months two years before.

Structural iron and steel was only 180,304 tons, as against 225,263 tons in the corresponding months of 1914. Lard was down from 341,000,000 pounds to 257,000,000; rosin from 1,712,291 to 949,691 barrels; turpentine was cut in half, from 13,333,000 gallons to 6,750,000; flaxseed oil cake was down from 506,000,000 pounds to 467,000,000; tobacco from 320,000,000 to 300,000,000 pounds; lumber from 1,610,899,000 to 812,498,000 feet.

But here is the way some of the prices have gone up to make our fabulous gain in export values: Export price of steel billets, \$56 a ton last February, against \$21.78 in February, 1914; motor cars for commercial use, an average gain of 105 per cent to the machine; horsehoes, a gain of 118 per cent in price; zinc, 90 per cent; brass, 66 per cent. Horses averaged \$203 a head in February, 1916, as against \$123 in February, 1914. Potatoes exported were 62 per cent higher a bushel in price than those exported in the corresponding month of 1914; canned beef was 57 per cent higher in price; shoes for men, 51 per cent higher; sole leather, 41 per cent; pig iron, 53 per cent; linseed oil, 47 per cent; rosin, 33 per cent; wood pulp, 31 per cent; refined sugar, 40 per cent; barbed wire, 29 per cent.

And everybody is familiar with what it was that threw so much wealth into the laps of our farmers—not merely that we exported wheat for war purposes in larger quantities than we had been exporting it for ordinary purposes, but that 80-cent wheat became \$1.65 wheat for a part of the second summer of the war, and that even now it is ranging some 35 per cent higher than before the war.

Not only can we not expect to sell war supplies when peace comes, but we cannot expect to sell anything any longer at those highly inflated prices. We are going to lose all the war business proper. We are going to lose the fat of all the other business made so richly remunerative by prices which the world would never think of paying except under war conditions.

Nevertheless when after the war, although cotton and some other exports will increase in quantity, the value of our exports goes shooting downward, there will be no corresponding decrease, except in rare instances, in the prices of our imports. But the quantities can go on increasing as in recent months. Indeed, with Germany and Austria and Belgium again free to reach our ports, and with Great Britain and France able to resume the production which they have always maintained for export in normal times, our imports may easily go up faster and further than our exports have done.

What are we doing to prepare for that? Nothing. But if we do nothing, the sea of imports which will sweep over this country will be a second flood, with never a Noah's ark to save us.

AGREEMENTS MUST BE KEPT

Samuel Gompers today issued a statement, aimed a strike of street car employees, that deserves to have the widest circulation. He declares that agreements between employers and employees mean just what they say; mean just as much to the men as they do to the corporations; and that the American Federation of Labor will not sustain a union in violation of an agreement.

This pronouncement was made in connection with the strike on the Washington and Old Dominion railroad, which serves an important suburban district in Virginia. On April 7 the men struck, and very shortly an agreement was reached under which they went back, pending negotiations for settlement of their grievances, with arbitration as the ultimate arbiter.

While the negotiations were going on, the men, yesterday afternoon, struck once more. They charged that

there were undue delays in getting together, and that the company was not pressing the negotiations in good faith. It is unnecessary to consider, at this time, the justification for these charges. The facts seem to be that the postponements were agreed to on both sides, and that the head of the American Federation of Labor believes there was entire good faith. At any rate he has made plain that organized labor must stand by its word as punctiliously as organized employers; and the Old Dominion employees will get no aid and comfort from the federation unless they stand by their arrangements.

This is a proper attitude. The public, as has been said a good many times, is entitled to the first consideration in such matters. The community must have transportation in order to live; and the interest of neither employer nor employee is paramount to that of the public. When a labor organization, in recognition of the public's rights and concerns, enters into an agreement, it must stretch the letter of that agreement, if necessary, in the purpose of accommodating the community. If it declines to do this it will lose public support, and that means certain defeat.

Mr. Gompers has given organized labor a platform on which it will win every case it deserves to win. Efforts to hold up the public, or to use its necessities as means to blackmail employers, will not win anything in the long course of events.

NEW YORK'S PEACE PARADE

Something like 145,000 New Yorkers, men and women, are marching today as an appeal for national preparedness. With flags and banners and patriotic inscriptions of sentiments, they are tramping through the streets of the metropolis; a bigger force than the regular army of the nation.

It is an impressive showing not only of the numbers but of the earnestness of the people who insist that the nation must face, soberly and understandingly, the crisis that looms before it. To pretend that there is, even now, no national danger, is folly; to pretend that that national danger is not of the gravest kind, with instant menace of involving us in a foreign war, is sheer blindness.

This country has been awakening, in recent weeks, to realization of what it faces. From every section come reports which leave no room for doubt that there is great apprehension about the immediate future. It has taken a long—a discouragingly long—time to get this testimony to national awakening; but we have it.

Seemingly there is a more accurate realization of the nation's necessities almost everywhere than among certain political elements that are still determined to do the least possible by way of making the country ready for whatever may happen. The politicians need to take account of their stock in the national confidence. They will find, with a very little trouble, that the people back at home are feeling much more deeply and earnestly than they were last December, when Congress came here for its long session. They will find that this new sentiment is going to influence people very decidedly in the coming political campaign. They will learn that the best patriotism and intellect of the country, quite regardless of sympathies or predilections for any side or element in the world war, is fast getting to be a solidarity in favor of putting this country in posture to take care of itself, whatever may happen.

The New York parade for preparedness might well be imitated—in the present condition of public interest it could be—in every important center of the country.

CAPT. BOY-ED'S DECORATION

Captain Karl Boy-Ed has been decorated by Emperor William with the "Order of the Red Eagle, third class, with Swords," according to advices from Berlin, on account of meritorious "services in America." Captain Boy-Ed was naval attaché of the embassy here and was recalled by his government at the demand of President Wilson. The record of his "services in America" is measurably known here; it was of the sort that brought the two countries to the verge of serious difficulties; it was utterly and scandalously improper service for a diplomat to be giving. His government, in recalling him and thus repudiating his doings, must be regarded as in effect admitting all this.

Yet he is now given high honor by his government.

Berlin has assured Washington that the submarine commander who torpedoed the Sussex has been appropriately punished. The American State Department has inquired just what was done to him; which is a bit of impertinence perfectly justified by Berlin's record in such matters, for Berlin has a way of "punishing" officers by kicking them upstairs into better positions.

It is a gross violation of decency for the German government to pretend to disavow the improprieties of its agents and then reward those very agents. It tears down all confidence in Germany's sincerity. It makes friendly relations more and more difficult every time it happens.

BLIND MEN'S LECTURE IS HERE TO STAY

British Sergeant Tells How Fellow-Victims Are Aided to Useful Lives.

NEW YORK, May 12.—Speaking with enthusiasm in spite of his misfortune of total blindness, Sergeant Robert Middlemiss, late of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, told of his mission to lecture in the interests of blind soldiers after his arrival in this country, yesterday, on the Adriatic.

The blind officer, who was wounded at Gallipoli in April of last year, is accompanied by his wife. They were taken to Ellis Island, but their friends here communicated with the authorities in Washington, and they were released.

Sergeant Middlemiss, who will lecture throughout the country under the auspices of the B. P. B. Permanent Blind Relief War Fund for Soldiers and Sailors, was met by representatives of the organization and taken to its headquarters in 580 Fifth avenue, where he was received by George A. Kessler and Mrs. Kessler, who are devoting themselves to this relief work.

Middlemiss told of the valuable training now being given to 160 blind soldiers at the "Blind Men's School," in Regent's Park, the beautiful London residence of Otto H. Kahn, loaned for this purpose.

Blind Learn Industries.

"In this training school the men are taught to read by the Braille system; they are learning to typewrite, they are taught boot making, poultry farming, telephone operating, bag making, and massage," he explained.

"I have served seven years in the army, in South Africa, in Egypt, and India, where I was stationed when the war broke out, but I never worked so hard before. We all get plenty of out-of-door exercise."

"The government pays those blinded while in action about \$6 a week," said Sergeant Middlemiss.

Showing the progress being made by the blind soldiers at the training school, he told of a boy of nineteen who lost one hand and the thumb and three fingers of the other hand.

Typewriter With One Finger.

"With his little finger he has learned to typewrite remarkably well," said Sergeant Middlemiss. A typewriter concern has invented an arrangement by which the shift key is operated by a foot strap.

The blind officer carries on his watch chain a piece of leather which he learned to use when he graduated from the Turkish forces graced his head and exploded.

"I left eye was put out the second day after we departed at Gallipoli. I was put on the British warship Amethyst. Later, I was transferred to the transport ship, the 'Hesperus,' to Cairo, where I was under treatment for eight weeks, and then I came to England."

Among well-known men and women of the American nation, who have been helped by the work here are Mrs. Vanderbilt, Clarence H. Mackay, Mrs. W. Bourke Cockfield, John D. Rockefeller, Mrs. John J. Mason, Jacob H. Schiff, Mrs. John J. Held, Mrs. Peter Cooper Hewitt, Mrs. Edward R. Hewitt, C. Coleman du Pont, Mrs. Preston Satterthwaite, W. K. Vanderbilt and Mrs. Otto H. Kahn.

MT. VERNON WILL BE FURTHER BEAUTIFIED

Regents Outline Work To Be Done This Season.

The further beautification of the Washington estate at Mt. Vernon is to be one of the important features of the present season on the estate, according to a decision reached by the members of the board of regents, now in session.

The meetings of the regents are being held at Mt. Vernon and will close today. Reports have been received of a number of gifts, and the afternoon will be devoted to outlining the work that is to be done. Gifts of money and of historic relics have been received from a number of sources during the year.

The president of the board of regents announced yesterday afternoon the receipt of a gift of \$1,000 to be used for the garden and the greenhouses. The gift is made in the names of three children, and it is the desire of the donors that the money shall be spent in further beautifying the grounds at Mt. Vernon.

Many young persons and foreign converts into the phrase to mean "Roman Catholic Church." The matter was referred favorably to the board of bishops.

When the social service committee report was presented by Chancellor Day, of the Syracuse University, Federal Judge Killitt, of Toledo, protested against the part that proposed to give preference to union labor. He was ruled out of order until the executive matter comes up.

"The report contained the following recommendation: 'A sound principle to govern the church as an employer would be that in recognition of the need for organized labor to improve conditions of industry, and on account of its general contribution to the community welfare, a preference should be shown to it and every possible effort be made to work with it, so far as its methods are just and so far as its rights of organized men are not infringed upon.'"

Removal of the prohibition against playing dancing and theatricals by methodists is recommended in the report of a subcommittee which precipitated the action.

The impression is growing that Bishop W. F. Mc Dowell, of Chicago, will be elected to succeed Bishop Edgerton, at Washington, when the latter is retired.

The election of bishops, which was expected would begin today, probably will be deferred until Tuesday.

Catholics to Celebrate

The Feast of St. Rita

The annual novena or nine days' devotion in honor of St. Rita of Cascia, proclaimed by the Catholic Church as "advocate of the impossible," will commence in St. Martin's Church, in which the only shrine of St. Rita in this city is established, Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The rector, the Rev. Eugene A. Hannan, will conduct the novena, in a course of which will be celebrated the "Feast of the Roses," when "St. Rita Roses" will be blessed.

Hair Factory Burns.

PHILADELPHIA, May 12.—Fireman Adam Goerke, sixty-five, was seriously injured and several others were overcome by smoke in a fire today that destroyed the hair factory of the F. S. Wool Company, entailing a loss estimated at \$20,000. The origin of the blaze is unknown.

Happenings in Capital Churches

Programs of Music for Tomorrow, Meetings of Various Societies, What Religious Circles Are Doing.

The Epworth League and congregation of Douglas Memorial M. E. Church, the Rev. C. C. McLean pastor, will hold a combined service beginning at 7 o'clock tomorrow evening in celebration of Mothers' Day, with the following program: Hymns 430 and 186, by the congregation; prayer and responsive reading; address of welcome to mothers by President Van W. Roberts; vocal solo; address, "Mothers of the Bible," by C. Muldady; recitation, "For Mother's Sake," by Douglas E. L. choir; "Our Mothers' God," recitation, "My Mother's Bible," Mr. Pearson; address by the pastor, "Some Famous Mothers and Their Influence," recitation, "Mother's Songs," hymn 508; installation of officers.

Two special services will be held at Metropolitan Baptist Church tomorrow. The pastor, the Rev. John J. Conlan, will preach the annual sermon before the Men's Bible Class at 10 o'clock on "What Is Man?" At 8 o'clock on "What Is Man?" At 10 o'clock on "What Is Man?" At 10 o'clock on "What Is Man?"

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At Gunton-Temple Memorial Presbyterian Church tomorrow

the Rev. Dr. Everett Granger, will preach at both services. At 11 o'clock service, "Mothers' Day," will be observed, and at 5 o'clock there will be vesper and song service with the sermon topic "Hersey." The sermon will consider the grave question of alleged heresy in the Presbyterian Church of Washington City, relative to practices in the Presbytery of New York.

At All Souls' Unitarian Church tomorrow morning, 10 o'clock, at the organ and Charles Trowbridge Tittman, soloist, the following will be the musical program: "Hear My Prayer," Ob. Gull; "Dvorak," "Oh, Lord, My Darkened Heart Enlighten," Bach; organ prelude, "Surrender, Corda," Elgar; "Impressions de Soir," Debussy; postlude, "Triumphal March," Lemmens.

Dr. William Stansfield, organist and choir director of First Congregational Church, has arranged the following musical program for tomorrow morning: Organ prelude, "Hear My Prayer," Ob. Gull; "Dvorak," "Oh, Lord, My Darkened Heart Enlighten," Bach; organ prelude, "Surrender, Corda," Elgar; "Impressions de Soir," Debussy; postlude, "Triumphal March," Lemmens.

The First Baptist Sunday School will observe Mother's Day tomorrow. At 11 o'clock the pastor, the Rev. W. W. McMaster, will preach on "A Tribute to Mother." In the evening Judge William F. Foster will give a lecture on "The United States in the Orient."

Shiloh Baptist Church will observe Mother's Day at both services. The reception committee of twenty-one members will be present at the doors to welcome the women and present each with a carnation in honor of mother. The Junior Choir will render music for the first time, and the senior choir will sing special music. The Rev. Dr. J. Miller Waldron will preach at the morning service on "Our Debt to Motherhood," and at night on "Some Bible Mothers." The church will be appropriately decorated. Aged and infirm mothers will be taken to and from the services in carriages.

The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. will commemorate Mother's Day by a special service in St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 10 o'clock.

METHUENISTS TO CUT

CATHOLIC OUT CREED

Phrase Misinterpreted, Is Reason Given in General Conference.

The thirty-ninth annual convention of the Christian Churches of Maryland, Delaware, and the District will be held at the Thirty-fourth Street Christian Church, May 15, 17, and 18.

On Monday evening, preceding the convention, the Christian Woman's Board of Missions of the District will give a banquet at the Ninth Street Christian Church, the guests of honor being Mrs. Effie L. Cunningham, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., and the Rev. Henry C. Armstrong, of Baltimore, and the Rev. C. B. Bagby, of Baltimore.

Tuesday will be "Preachers' Day," the convention sermon being given by the Rev. Earle Willey. The speaker at the afternoon session will be the Rev. Finis Idelman, chairman of the National Committee on Immigration, who will also speak in the evening.

The Women's Board will have the afternoon and evening sessions on Wednesday. Mrs. A. A. Cunningham, editor of the "Missionary Tidings," will give the address at both sessions. The last day of the convention will be given over to the Bible School in the morning and the Christian Endeavor in the evening.

MUSIC PROGRAM AT

CHURCH OF COVENANT

At the Church of the Covenant tomorrow afternoon the music by the triple quartet will be as follows:

"If I Go Not Away" (Calciotti) incidental solo by Mr. Backing and Mr. Humphrey; "Yes, Through the Valley" (Stevenson), incidental solo by Miss Harper; tenor solo, "In Native Words" (The Creation) (Haydn), Mr. Backing; "Fear Not Ye, O Israel" (Glanville), incidental solo by Mr. Backing; "In Heaven the Stars Are Now Shining" (Rheinberger).

In the evening the music will be by the evening choir of 100 voices, with Harvey Murray at the organ and Mr. Wrightson directing, and will be as follows: Organ prelude, "Priore Offertory" (Devred); "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (Bach), incidental solo by Miss Harper and Mr. Corbach; contralto solo, "I Come to Thee, Roma," Mrs. Fuller; "The Soul of the Righteous" (Foster), incidental solo by Miss Craig; "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" (Stebbins), incidental solo by Mr. Harper and Mr. Wrightson; organ postlude, "Psalms," in E flat (Gullman).

THIRTY-NINTH SESSION TO MEET

Next Week at Mt. Rainier.

Program Announced.

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REAL ESTATE HERE FAILS TO KEEP UP

PAGE OF WEEK AGO

Decline of Forty-five Sales Shown in Trading Here for Last Six Days.

236 PARCELS CHANGE HANDS

Monday Was Busiest Day, With Thirty Transactions to Its Credit.

Realty trading on the second week of May failed to measure up to the pace set during the initial week of the month. In the last six days the brokers were able to close only 131 deals, a decline of 45 sales from the record-breaking activity of the preceding week. Included in the transactions were 236 parcels of real estate.

Monday was the busiest day of the week having 30 sales to its credit. Wednesday ranked second with 28 deals, followed by Thursday's record of 26 trades. There were 23 sales on Tuesday and 20 on Friday. Saturday made the poorest showing of the year with only 4 sales.

The feature of the week's trading was its remarkable distribution over the entire District. The selling was more evenly distributed among the various sections of the city than has ever before been noticed by those who follow the realty market. The near-urban district had a slight increase with 49 lots conveyed. The northeast was in second place with 46 lots transferred, followed by the northwest where 35 lots changed owners. The business district dropped to fourth position, having been the scene of the transfer of only 28 parcels. There were no lots sold in the southeast and 29 in the southwest.

\$100,000 Residence Sold.

The highest priced sale of this week was a residence, Mrs. Emilio B. Michler sold the large dwelling at 1915 Massachusetts avenue northwest to Mrs. Ethel Toy Lamar, of Atlanta. The price as indicated by the revenue stamps was near \$100,000.

The property was once owned by Eldridge E. Jordan.

The Miner School building at Seventeenth and Church streets northwest, which has been under lease to the District for school purposes, was sold by the institution for the Education of the Deaf, to Mr. H. H. Wardman and Thomas Bones. The price indicated by the revenue stamps was \$33,000. The District Commissioners surrendered their lease on the property.

Messrs. Wardman and Bones contemplated the purchase of a handsome apartment on the site.

In exchange Mr. Wardman conveyed to the institution a vacant lot at 22nd and Colored Youth for the Education of the Deaf, situated between 22nd and 24th streets northwest. The price stated at \$25,000.

Premises Adams Mill road, which was owned by Richard E. Pairo for \$2,000,000, was sold to the Congress Hotel Company, title to be taken up adjoining on the north and known as 22nd and 23rd Jersey avenue southeast. Samuel H. H. was the seller. The price is not announced.

Mrs. Mary F. Henderson increased her holdings in the neighborhood of Henderson, Cal., when she purchased a vacant lot in Euclid street between 16th and 17th streets from Elizabeth Moffit. The price was \$17,500.

Golden Estate Distribution.

The extensive realty holdings of the late Robert A. Golden in Southwest Washington were distributed during the week by deeds from his executor, The widow, Mrs. Belle Golden, received the property at Tenth and F streets and a house, 450 Tenth street southwest. Margaret C. Baum took title to houses 632 Tenth street and 634 Tenth street; Cornelius A. Mills, 412 Tenth street; Emma Carter and Cornelius A. Mills, 444 Tenth street; Robert J. Mills, 418 Tenth street; and Emma Carter, 416 Tenth street.

The decline in the selling market was also reflected in the loans of the week. The exact figures in loans were \$11,350.00. The sum was borrowed on the security of \$28 lots at an average interest rate of 6 per cent.

The bulk of the week's loans were of the "strutted" variety, which totaled \$24,000. The bulk of the week's loans were of the "strutted" variety, which totaled \$24,000. The bulk of the week's loans were of the "strutted" variety, which totaled \$24,000.

County proper, continued in favor as a basis for